## Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 JUSE-00 DEAE-00 SNM-02

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P 231525Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4882

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, CGEN, IT

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF GOI PRISONER GERARDO ARCANO TO US

REF: STATE 299158 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OFFICIAL INFORMED EMBASSY THAT ACCORDING TO ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE CASE WAS SENT TO GENERAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY C/O COURT OF APPEALS ROME (EXTRADITION SECTION) FOR THEIR ACTION.
- 2. GENERAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE ADVISED EMBASSY THAT ON DECEMBER 18 ACTION WAS REFERRED TO ROME DISTRICT ATTORNEY C/O TRIBUNAL OF ROME IN ORDERTO APPOINT A STATE ATTORNEY TO VISIT ARCANO IN PRISON, LET HIM KNOW OFFICIALLY OF THE USG REQUEST FOR HIS TEMPRARY EXTRADITION TO US AND OBTAIN HIS WRITTEN CONSENT. ON DECEMBER 19 STATE ATTORNEY FRATTA ACCOMPLISHED REQUIRED FORMALITIES AND WAS OFFICIALLY INFORMED BY ARCANO OF HIS REFUSAL TO TESTIFY IN ROSSI'S PROCEEDINGS. ARCANO UNOFFICIALLY EXPRESSED HIS FEAR THAT HIS TESTIMONY WOULD BE A TRAP FOR HIM.
- 3. ROME GENERAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE ASSURED EMBASSY TODAY THAT BY DECEMBER 24 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION CONTAINING ARCANO'S REFUSAL TO TESTIFY IN ROSSI'S PROCEEDINGS WILL BE SENT TO THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE. ON ITS RECEIPT MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OFFICIALS WILL PREPARE CASE FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MINISTER WHO MUST SIGN THE DECREE FOR ARCANO'S TEMPROARY EXTRADITION.

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4. EMBASSY CONTACTED MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OFFICIAL WHO STATED THAT

USG'S REQUEST FOR ARCANO'S TEMPORARY EXTRADITION WILL BE PROCESSED DESPITE ARCANO'S REFUSAL. HOWEVER THE OFFICIAL CONCERNED WAS UNABLE TO GIVE A FIRM DATE FOR FINAL ACTION BY MINISTER OF JUSTICE ALTHOUGH HE GAVE ASSURENACE THAT EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO EXPEDITE MATTERS.

5. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW CASE CLOSELY WITH MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND REPORT TO DEPT. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, EXTRADITION, PRISONERS, TRIALS, DEPOSITIONS

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